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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
KENICHI TAKAHIRO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: PATEL, VISHAL A.  
SERIAL NO: 10/551,438 :  
FILED: DECEMBER 11, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3676  
FOR: RING-SHAPED METAL GASKET :

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 3, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.